



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 29**

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**Chairperson:** Ed Schrock  
**Committee:** Natural Resources  
**Date of Hearing:** February 5, 2003

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 29 amends the original 1981 Municipal Cooperative Financing Act in three ways.

Agencies created under the Act may engage in the supply of electric energy and power projects along with water, sewer, and solid waste projects. The Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska is the only such power agency created under the Act and has successfully operated under the Act.

The bill eliminates obsolete language regarding the eligibility for membership, which required load information on power suppliers for the five years preceding May 1, 1981. This 27-year review is no longer necessary or relevant today. It is difficult to determine the loads of 27 years ago and brings no needed information to the Nebraska Power Review Board.

LB 29 permits the Board to determine after notice to interested parties whether or not to hold a hearing when the agency wishes to amend its petition for creation.

LB 29 also extends the time in which the agency's board has to review expenditures. Under current law, the board must review expenditures every two months. The board meets quarterly, and so it is not always reviewing those expenditures in a timely fashion. It does, however, receive the information monthly. This change would allow the board to review expenditures at the next regular meeting following the expenditure.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Ed Schrock**